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Attention: Mr. Edward W. Crump, Code 430

Subject: Monthly Progress Report for Period Ending 1 February 1973

Contract: ERTS Image Data Compression Technique Evaluation

Principal Investigator: Dr. Donald J. Spencer, GSFC ID PR512

During the month of January, the determination of the object classes to be processed was finalized and used as an input to the Data Analysis Plan. This plan also recommended several changes in the processing procedure in order to better meet the study objectives. The Data Analysis Plan was sent to the Goddard Space Flight Center for evaluation on January 24, 1973.

Two more sets of MSS tapes were received in January, corresponding to scenes 1016-16050 and 1018-18010. Two other tapes ordered in December, scenes 1015-17440 and 1017-16093, have not arrived. As the tapes arrive, subscenes and/or full scenes corresponding to the desired object classes are selected. These scenes will be processed according to plan as soon as the Data Analysis Plan is approved.

The major problem encountered to date is the slow delivery of data products when requested. A secondary problem which has been observed is occasional bad data from one of the six sensors in band MSS-5. Every sixth scan line often has very small values uncorrelated with adjacent scan lines of band 5 or with the corresponding scan lines of the other spectral bands. This can defeat the SSDI data compression algorithm and produce less compression than would otherwise occur if the data were correct.

TRW SYSTEMS GROUP

Curtis L. May

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